

clusive:
yContin maker
due is 'Pharma
X' in U.S. opioid
kback probe urces

By Mike Spector and Tom Hals Reuters January 28, 2020



FILE PHOTO: Bottles of prescription painkiller OxyContin made by Purdue Pharma LP on a counter at a local pharm in Provo

By Mike Spector and Tom Hals

to people familiar with the matter.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - OxyContin maker Purdue

Pharma LP is the unnamed company that surfaced in Checking Account, Make These 5 criminal charging documents filed earlier this week in Moves

probe of illegal kickbacks from drugmakers, according heWalletGuru.com

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Purdue Pharma, which faces U.S. Justice Departmentat to Read Next probes and sprawling litigation over allegations it

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Justice Department Ends Probe Into 3 Se illegal kickback from an opioid company identified i Who Sold Stock After January Coronavir the documents as "Pharma Co. X." The unnamed Briefing company is Purdue Pharma, the people familiar with the matter said. Purdue was not criminally charged in the case or accused of wrongdoing.

Screeners

"As Purdue Pharma has previously stated, the company is cooperating with investigative demand various components of the U.S. Department of Jus in connection with criminal and civil investigations ( the company," the Stamford, Connecticut-based drugmaker said in a statement, adding that it had no Now further comment.

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Members of the wealthy Sackler family who control Purdue but no longer sit on its board have also bee named in litigation and issued a separate statemer

"Throughout their time on the board since 2007, the directors were regularly and consistently assured the the company was in full compliance with all legal a regulatory requirements, and so we would be profoundly disappointed if any of those assurancesconsequences

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Associated Press

A spokesman for the Vermont U.S. attorney's office and a Justice Department spokeswoman in Washington declined to comment.

turned out not to be true," they said.

The development intensifies pressure on Purdue and the Sacklers as the company holds talks aimed at resolving the Justice Department investigations.

Resolving those probes is a condition of a tentative Why Lori Loughlin and Mossimo Giannul multibillion-dollar settlement with more than 2,600 Could Avoid Jail Time Entirely Due to CO cities, counties and states that have sued Purdue and its wealthy owners seeking to hold them responsible for the opioid epidemic.

The company and the Sacklers deny they are to blame for the crisis that has caused some 400,000 deaths

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The vendor at the center of the kickback investigation is Allscripts Healthcare Solutions Inc's <MDRX.O> Practice Fusion unit.

It agreed to pay \$145 million to resolve criminal and civil allegations that it solicited and received kickbacks

Jaclyn Smith Is 72 Now & Is Unrecogniza from several drugmakers in exchange for embedding alerts in physicians' software to boost sales of their products, the Vermont U.S. attorney's office said.

As part of the settlement, Practice Fusion entered into a deferred prosecution agreement to resolve criminal charges linked to the illegal kickback it received from the unnamed company, which sources identified as Purdue.

Practice Fusion also resolved a civil allegation that Graham calls Rosenstein as first witness Russia probe submitted false claims to federal healthcare programs Sociated Press in relation to the kickback arrangement with the unnamed opioid company, prosecutors said.

Reuters was unable to learn the identities of the other pharmaceutical companies involved in the case.

## PUSHING MORE ADDICTIVE OPTIONS

Practice Fusion began soliciting payments from happens, says infectious disease expert Pharma Co. X in late 2013 in exchange for creating an alert designed to boost opioid prescriptions by suggesting doctors focus on assessing and treating a patient's pain symptoms with opioid medication as a preferred option.

Practice Fusion pitched the software as a way to influence doctors and counter the unnamed company's declining opioid sales, stemming from heightened public awareness of addiction risks, according to configuration with the savings amid documents.

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The alert on the Practice Fusion platform, used by tens of thousands of healthcare providers, was triggered 230 million times from July 2016 until the StandardNews Ad spring of 2019, according to court documents.

Allscripts General Counsel and Chief Administrative Officer Brian Farley said in a statement the allegations predate his company's 2018 acquisition of Practice Fusion for \$100 million.

He said Allscripts has strengthened Practice Fusion's compliance program and is aware of the devastation opioids have caused to U.S. communities.

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GeekWire

(Reporting by Mike Spector in New York and Tom In Wilmington, Delaware; Editing by Bill Berkrot)



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